



JAPAN CHRISTIAN ACTIVITY NEWS

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JAPAN CHRISTIAN'S PEACE COUNCIL

The majority of the approximately 25 Christian's peace groups in Japan will merge to form the Japan Christian's Peace Council. Its first General Assembly will be held in May.

The proposal to combine their efforts and organize on a national level was first presented last September at the Christian's Peace Conference held in Tokyo. At that time a preparation committee was appointed with two representatives from each of the various peace groups attending the conference.

Meeting on Jan. 14-15 an all-Japan Reorganization Preparation Conference approved the results of studies and discussions by the aforementioned preparation committee. The approved platform embraces the following three planks:

1. We are resolved in Christ to act in the political social and economic spheres as well as in the Church.
2. We shall exert effort to secure an ordered society and a peaceful world.
3. We shall oppose rearmament and protect our democratic "Peace Constitution".

There is also a Christian's League for Peace in Japan. The newly found Japan Christian's Peace Council will be a member of this League.

ASIA CHRISTIAN HALL

Rev. Ryoichi Kato, pastor of the Tokyo Ikebukuro Church(Kyodan) has proposed the construction of an Asia Christian Hall to help bring about closer relations between Southeast Asia and Japan.

Plans are to utilize the present site of the Ikebukuro Church for the new hall which will include a large chapel seating 1,500

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and a dormitory for 200 students. Total cost is estimated at 500 million yen and completion of the raising of funds and construction is set for 1965.

According to Rev. Kato there are more than 100 Christian Indonesian students in Tokyo now and about 3,000 Indonesian youths will be coming to Japan during the next several years. Many students from Indonesia, New Guinea, Formosa and Okinawa now attend Sunday services at the Ikebukuro Church.

The deep interest of Rev. Kato stems from the time when he was sent by the Kyodan to Indonesia in 1943. At that time he served the Ambon Church in the Maluku Islands for three years.

100,000 NEW TESTAMENTS TO INDONESIA

The Japan Bible Society will present 100,000 Indonesian copies of the New Testament to the Indonesian Bible Society through the Indonesian Embassy in Tokyo on Jan. 16. Twenty Bibles will be presented to Indonesian Ambassador Maj. Gen. R. Bambang Sugeng by Rev. Tsunetaro Miyakoda of the Japan Bible Society in a symbolic ceremony at the Indonesian Embassy.

Half of the 100,000 copies have already been sent and the remaining 50,000 will be sent in March.

Ten thousand New Testaments were sent to Indonesia last year at the request of the Indonesian Bible Society because of the impossibility of receiving Bibles from the Netherlands.

JAPAN KESWICK CONVENTION

The entire Japanese section of the Hakone Kowakien and many rooms in the western style Kowakien Hotel have been reserved for an anticipated 1,000 attendants to the second Japan Keswick Convention to be held Feb. 26--March 1.

The following speakers have been invited:

Rev. George Duncan, from England, known as one of the most popular speakers of the British Keswick Convention;

Rev. Paul Rees, from America, has also spoken at the British Keswick and is known for his ministry to Japanese pastors at the time of the Tokyo Crusade;

Rev. Bob Pierce, from America, president of World Vision, known for his conducting of annual pastor's conferences on mission fields to help train national workers.

An interdenominational convention for the "Deepening of the Spiritual Life," the Keswick Convention takes the stand that Christianity should be "active, not passive".

WORKSHOP ON MARRIAGE COUNSELING

The Home and Family Life Committee of the NCC is sponsoring a workshop on marriage counseling with Dr. Ralph P. Bridgman as the featured speaker. Dr. Brigman, chief marriage counselor at

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the Family Court Center in Toledo, Ohio, is Fulbright visiting lecturer at the Research and Training Institute for the Family Court Probation Offices of the Supreme Court of Japan.

With the focus on action that can be taken in and by the local church, the following program has been arranged:

- 10:00--12:00 Lecture on strengthening and stabilizing family relationship through (or by means of) the program of the local church by Dr. Bridgman.
- 1:00--3:00 Lecture on conducting the counseling relationship in the local church by Dr. Bridgman.
- 3:00--5:00 Panel discussion chaired by Rev. S. Iwamura.

The meeting will be held at the Ginza Christian Center on Feb. 25. Participants will be limited to 30 ministers and missionaries. The workshop fee is 200 yen per person.

REFORMED THEOLOGICAL CONFERENCE

All missionaries and pastors "interested in Biblical and historical theological studies and their implications for the Christian witness in Japan," are invited to participate in the seventh Reformed Theological Conference being held at Osaka Christian Center, March 12-13, 1963.

The theme for the conference will be "The Inspiration and Authority of the Scriptures".

Speakers include Will Mailwaine, Presbyterian Church in the U.S.; Lloyd Neve, United Lutheran Church in America; Addison Soltau, Independent Board of Presbyterian Missions; Robert Lee, Japan Mennonite Mission. Rev. Arch Taylor, Presbyterian Church in the U.S. missionary is in charge of reservations.

